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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE AND RESEARCH WASHINGTON

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The Honorable William J. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence

Dear Bill,

I would like to take this opportunity to update you on the INR information handling project. As you know, in August, 1983, the Intelligence Community Staff reported on the state of INR's information handling capabilities to the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. One of the key recommendations was that a contract study be undertaken to better define INR requirements and recommend how best to meet them in order that INR could keep apace of the advances in information handling made by the other intelligence agencies. Then Chairman Boland subsequently wrote the Secretary requesting that the Committee be kept informed of the progress.

The Department awarded a contract in May, 1984 to the Planning Research Corporation (PRC), which conducted a three phase study: requirements analysis, systems analysis and a transition phase document. The study was monitored throughout by a technical review group comprised of concerned Department offices as well as Intelligence Community Staff representatives. The study is now finished, and recommends that INR pursue a scaled-down version of the SAFE system inasmuch as the SAFE system, as presently constituted, far exceeds our needs in quantitative terms. However, since INR analyst requirements are not unlike those of analysts in CIA and DIA, the question is how to capture the software capabilities while operating on a small hardware suite.

Having completed the study, INR's FY-1985 funding is too limited to permit us to independently maintain our momentum toward modernization. The Department, however, has made a significant long term commitment to our enhancement by including \$2.3 million in our FY-86 budget in the context of a planned expenditure of up to \$15 million over a five year period. To bridge the gap I request your authorization for Department systems personnel to establish a technical dialogue with the Office of Information Technology (OIT/CSPO) to determine what if any SAFE technology may be transferable to an INR system. The SAFE Project Office had been very cooperative during our study effort, but to adequately evaluate the SAFE system, the Project Office would have to commit additional time and resources to this effort.

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Without your backing I don't think we could have gotten this far, and with a little more help now I think we can get the project fairly launched. Many thanks.

Sincerely,

Morton I. Abramowitz